

Delaware Forest Service awards \$58,409 in urban and community forestry grants

DOVER, Del. – The Delaware Forest Service's urban and community program has awarded \$58,409 in grants to 22 municipalities, HOA's, and nonprofits to fund planting and management projects [to improve tree canopy](#) on public lands and open space in the First State. Over the past 10 years, the program has funded more than \$1 million in community-based tree projects in Delaware.



This project at Crossroad Community Church in Georgetown, Sussex County was made possible by a Delaware Forest Service urban forestry grant targeted to communities in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

Funded by the [U.S. Forest Service](#), Delaware's [Urban and Community Grant Program](#) is open to all municipalities, community associations, and certified 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations within the State of Delaware. Funds can only be

utilized on public property owned by the municipality, HOA, or nonprofit organization. Grants can range from a minimum of \$500 to a maximum of \$5,000 in one of two project categories: tree planting or tree management. All applications require a 50-50 cost-share match in either cash or in-kind services within program guidelines. Applications were limited to one project in one project category and were judged on a competitive basis by a grant committee of the [Delaware Urban and Community Forestry Council](#). Eligible projects must be performed on public lands within the community. Priority is given to first time applicants, [Tree City USA's](#), [Tree Friendly Communities](#), and applicants that have passed an Urban Tree Canopy Goal Resolution (only applies to Municipalities).

EVALUATION CRITERIA

All grants were ranked according to the following criteria:

1. Overall project quality/community need
2. Project encourages sustainable urban forestry through management planning, proper tree care or sustaining/maintaining urban tree canopy.
3. The project mitigates tree hazard(s) – *applicable only for management grants*
4. Increases tree canopy – *applicable only for planting grants*
5. Applicant has worked with DFS on a project to address [DFS state forest strategies](#)
6. Municipality has implemented an Urban Tree Canopy Goal Resolution (Municipalities) or is a current [Tree Friendly Community](#)

The Delaware Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry Program is committed to providing a range of technical and informational assistance to residents of communities in the First State.

For more information, contact:

Kesha Braunskill, Delaware Forest Service (DFS) Urban Forestry Administrator

Office: (302) 698-4578, Kesha.Braunskill@delaware.gov

Applications for the next round of grants will be available early in 2018.

List of 2017 Delaware Urban and Community Forestry Grants:

| TREE PLANTING GRANTS | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| <u>Community, HOA, or Nonprofit</u> | <u>County</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
| Fairthorne | New Castle | \$2,658.00 |
| Tavistock Civic Association | New Castle | \$2,260.00 |
| Highlands Community | New Castle | \$1,683.00 |
| Albert Einstein Academy | New Castle | \$1,339.00 |
| Port Penn Augustine Beach | New Castle | \$780.00 |
| Town of Smyrna | Kent | \$4,150.00 |
| Dover Air Force Base | Kent | \$4,000.00 |
| City of Rehoboth | Sussex | \$5,000.00 |
| Sterling Crossing | Sussex | \$4,861.00 |
| The Meadows at Old Landing | Sussex | \$4,000.00 |
| City of Lewes | Sussex | \$2,878.00 |
| Sugar Maple Farms | Sussex | \$2,500.00 |
| | Total | \$36,109.00 |
| TREE MANAGEMENT GRANTS | | |
| <u>Community, HOA, or Nonprofit</u> | <u>County</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
| Edenridge I & II | New Castle | \$4,200.00 |
| Old Swedes Church | New Castle | \$4,000.00 |
| Alapocas | New Castle | \$3,300.00 |
| Pembrey | New Castle | \$2,114.00 |
| Foxfire Homeowners Association | New Castle | \$2,062.00 |

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| Village of Ardencroft | New Castle | \$1,966.00 |
| Village of Arden | New Castle | \$1,680.00 |
| Carrcroft | New Castle | \$1,258.00 |
| Arden Club | New Castle | \$255.00 |
| Rehoboth Art League | Sussex | \$1,465.00 |
| | Total | \$22,300.00 |